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The Voice of the University of Toronto at Mississauga

THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 11 November 19, 2001

ECSU held their Annual General Meeting last Tuesday. Students raised concerns to council members. *photo/Melissa Verge*

ECSU holds AGM

By Tamara Sulliman

Last Tuesday, the Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) held its first Annual General Meeting for the year.

The council members presented themselves to some thirty-odd people and told them what they had done for students so far for this year.

ECSU President Erick Mckinlay spoke of concerns that he had with different councils and departments.

"I've established a positive relationship with residence and have met several times with the Residence Manager and the Director of Residence. I've voiced concerns that I have about the appeal procedures that exist now when a student is accused of violating a residence policy," he said.

"I have also had meetings with the deans regarding student awareness in the field of academic behaviour. Discussions have included plagiarism and the need to become more active in educating students about academic policies."

Mckinlay and Vice President of Administration Adil Mirza said that they will handle ECSU's finances in light of the resignation of former Vice President Mary Halopulos.

"We do not feel it is feasible to have another election at this point. There is not enough time to have one this semester and it is difficult to bring a new person into the position next semester as orientation will take awhile," said Mckinlay.

"We helped out Mary while she was ill, so we're capable of carrying out the position. Right now there are two executives to serve the students and the members of ECSU are communicating well, so we'll be fine," said Mirza.

In ECSU's summer budget, the projected annuals for wages (honorariums) and pub transfers were $7,500 and $1,000 dollars respectively. However, the actuals for the year up

ECSU continued on page 3

ECC cancelled a third time this term

Students unpleased over cancellations

By Tamara Sulliman

Last Tuesday, the Erindale College Council (ECC) cancelled its meeting for the third time this semester.

Principal Robert McNutt said the meetings were scrapped because Erindale is waiting to hear from the provincial government to find out how much funding the university will receive for its expansion.

"The whole agenda for the meetings is about our growth as a campus. We're waiting to find out how much financial aid we will receive from them for our new athletics, library and science buildings. As a result, everything was held up," he said.

"The economic forcast right now is very unsure as we are probably approaching a recession. The top priority for the government right now is the health plan. As far as they're concerned, they need to solve that problem before they can consider any thing else."

ECC Chair Edith Poe agreed that council meetings relied heavily on bodies external to UTM. "With regard to the capital projects, unfortunately there has been a bit of a hiatus. In order to consider the viability of these projects and, possibly, to put them in an order or priority, it is obviously necessary to know what they will cost and from where the money will come. The latter awaits announcement from the provincial government; the former awaits costing that is done by the finance office at the St. George campus. This costing that was expected to be ready in early October has still not been produced. We are told that this is because of a backlog of costing work to be done by that office. But, unfortunately, rather than telling us that the work would not be done until November or December or whenever, we were led to believe that it would be ready 'any day now'. So we didn't actively seek out other business for the Council or its Committees, thinking that they would soon be occupied as originally planned. When the Council dates drew near and the work had still not been done, we decided to postpone the meetings so as not to call people to a meeting which had no significant agenda items."

> "I'm worried. At the beginning of the year, all these building plans had to move at breakneck speed but now, for the past month, I haven't seen any progress in terms of mass information towards students"
> – Ian Hazlewood

UTMAC President Ian Hazlewood expressed concern about how long the construction of buildings will take in light of the delayed meetings. The Athletics/Wellness Centre was scheduled to be finished late 2004-2005 or early in the 2005-2006 year.

"All of the building proposals have to go through ECC before they go downtown and the goal was to have out proposals passed by January or February. If we don't get our proposals downtown in time, how far will that set us back?" he said.

"We're going to be stuck with these building plans and yet there is no action. I'm worried. At the beginning of the year, all these building plans had to move at breakneck speed but now, for the past month, I haven't seen any progress in terms of mass information towards students."

Erindale Part-time Undergraduate Students (EPUS) President Tania Ramsay feels that the explanations for the cancellations given in the e-mails to students were inadequate.

"The only explanation given for one of the cancellations was a scheduling conflict with the Academic Affairs Board downtown, and delays from Simcoe Hall and the City of Mississauga. I find the latter two explanations vague, and I don't really understand how that ties in to the ECC not being able to function as usual," she said.

"I've heard that the cancellations are because the University doesn't know yet how much funding it will recieve from the government towards the new science, athletic/wellness, and library buildings. But there are other items on the agenda (for example, new curriculum reports and the

ECC continued on page 4

How's it hanging, man?

UTMAC, SAC and SC Events sponsored the rock climbing event held outside the Student Centre last Wednesday. This dude here was dared to climb the wall in his shorts and so he did. I guess the hole in the Student Centre roof served some purpose after all. *photo courtesy UTMAC*

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"I'm worried"

– UTMAC President Ian Hazlewood expresses concern over the number of ECC cancellations, front page

Blind Duck Pub
This Thursday
GIRLS NIGHT OUT
TORONTO FIREFIGHTERS
L'OREAL PARIS and more...

Discussion on war in Afghanistan held in SC

BY JOHANNA KRISTOLAITIS

Students who wanted to talk about the war in Afghanistan got a chance last Wednesday when a forum on the war was held in the Student Centre Board Room.

A three-member panel was on hand to give their views on the situation, direct discussion and answer questions. It consisted of UTM's Diversity Officer Pardeep Nagra, Professor Richard Iton and Mohammed El Rashidy from the Muslim Students Association.

After being welcomed to the event and having the proceedings outlined by Nagra, Iton made several points about the current war. Although he clearly stated that he was not an expert in international politics, he was obviously knowledgeable of the subject.

"It's not clear that the United States has thought through the long-term results of what they're doing," said Iton. "They don't seem to have a goal for what they want to see in that part of the world after the war."

He spoke about the dangers of describing the terrorists simply as evil, which takes sets America implicitly up as innocent. If it's purely good against evil, it's difficult to examine things like foreign policy with helped to bring the situation to this point.

Nagra brought up the anti-terror bill that's likely to be passed, agreeing with Iton that non-whites and especially Arab-looking people will bear the brunt of its effect, as they now bear the brunt of increased security at places like airports.

El Rashidy followed, talking about the troubles of someone being held currently for suspected involvement. He said a man is kept naked in solitary confinement and only allowed to see his lawyer for five minutes a day. Because of the Secret Evidence Act, his lawyer can't even find out for sure what his client is charged with.

"In the mainstream media, only the facts of the trial are reported, not these abuses of the accused," says El Rashidy. "We don't get a balanced message delivered to the public because we don't have a balanced, diverse group of people delivering that message."

"The minute you employ the cliché 'If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem', you're going to have people not standing up to speak out and be counted," adds Nagra.

At this point, the floor was opened to questions and comments from those in attendance. The first one came from Mohammed Hashin, a UTM student and member of Breakdown, who asked about the United States interest in this war, making reference to the oil situation that came into play in the Gulf War.

While Iton commented that oil has been suggested as an additional U.S. interest this time too, El Rashidy said he'd like to believe it really is terrorism and nothing else. He added that the current strategy for fighting terrorism doesn't seem to he working. Instead, it is widening the gap between different races and viewpoints.

"We must bridge this gap before it grows too wide," he adds.

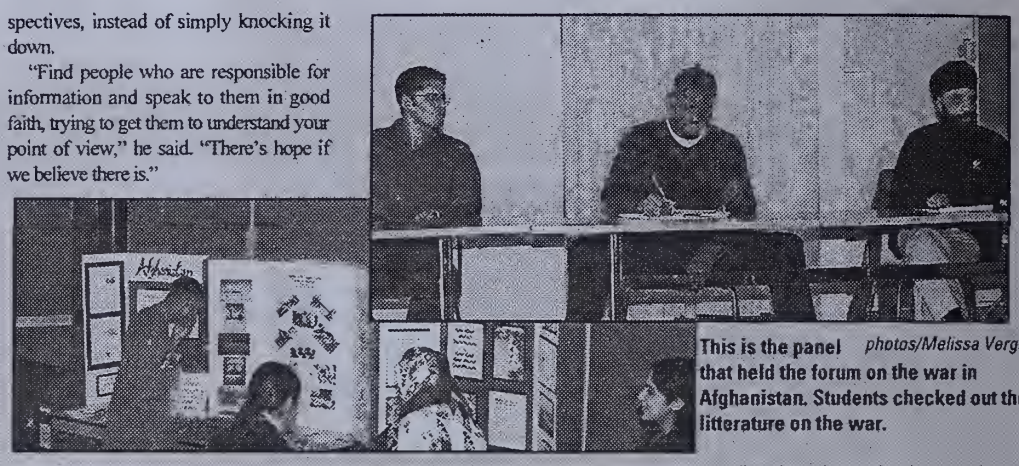
UTM ECSU President Erick Mckinlay was in attendance and asked what the panel thought of the Canadian media coverage of the situation since September 11th. All of three panel members agreed that CBC had been doing a pretty good job of trying to represent diversity, especially through their town halls on the issues. Iton emphasized the difference between Canadian and American coverage.

"What's going on in the United States media doesn't reflecy how people are feeling,"

explained Iton. "People don't feel safe about questioning what's happening; they feel there are no places available to discuss the situation openly."

Nagra also commented on working with the media to bring out diverse perspectives, instead of simply knocking it down.

"Find people who are responsible for information and speak to them in good faith, trying to get them to understand your point of view," he said. "There's hope if we believe there is."



This is the panel *photos/Melissa Verge* **that held the forum on the war in Afghanistan. Students checked out the litterature on the war.**

Another student, Ferozan Fariad, commented on Bush's use of specific language.

"He's used the word crusade. He said this terrorism was an attack on Christians and Jews," said Fariad. "This language separates Muslims and other minorities, leaving them little voice against the media influence of figureheads like Bush."

This led to a discussion of the real politics of the situation, far too detailed to relate in full here. The information is important however, so if you're interested in this issue, find out the background. The discussion touched on the rise to power of Osama bin Laden, Northern Alliance and the Taliban, as well as foreign policy, the difference between fighting and governing, the method of the United States to isolate the countries it doesn't like, and the reasons terrorism can breed in sme of these countries. Many insightful comments were made by students in attendance.

"We should eliminate reasons for terrorism," said Hashin. "not its breeding grounds."

"My hope is that, after the Taliban is out, foreign aid will be flown in to help rebuild the country and establish a government that the people there want," said UTM student Michelle Daley. "The Western world is very liked because it hasn't helped."

When one student asked what effect the panel thought the war would have on neighbouring countries, Iton delivered an excellent metaphor.

"It's as if the United States was bowling and all these countries were the pins," he said. "The U.S. doesn't care if it gets a strike and knocks them all down; it's going home when the game's over."

Before the forum wrapped up, someone asked what they could do about the situation, other than donate to the relief funds. Nagra encouraged everyone to express themselves by submitting to the Medium or writing to other media outlets, as well as talking to other people and finding out what they think or what they'd like to see happen.

"The key is to take initaitive," said Nagra. "And donations don't hurt either."

El Rashidy added that self-education of the situation and the different viewpoints was also essential, while Iton suggested writing to those who have spoken out against the war and lost their job or been unjustly investigated for it.

"Let them know they're not alone in their opinions and that there is support for them," he said.

The forum was organized after Fattah Abogodieh, president of the Muslim Students Association, suggested it to Jason Nicols, Student Centre Events Coordinator. They realized there was a need on campus for such a forum, but it took a while to find people who would speak on the panel and to balance their schedules to arrive at a date.

"It was disappointing to find that many faculty members didn't want to speak because they didn't consider themselves experts or, worse, didn't have a particular opinion on the situation," said Nicols. "But it did happen and hopefully we can organize with more groups in the future to have more forums of this kind."

"It was an excellent start," said Abogodieh. "I learned a lot myself, more than I have at other panels on this issue, discussed."

For a closer look at the effect of the media's manipulation in the coverage of the war, attend Breakdown's "Breaking Down the Message" presentation Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Student Centre.

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Vibe investigated

Industry Canada questions Vibe's legitimacy

By Tamara Sulliman

Two Thursdays ago, an Industry Canada van swooped into the parking lot behind the Student Centre in search of the culprits behind illegal broadcasting they had picked up from their van. Their search brought them to UTM's radio station, Vibe.

Industry Canada picked up Vibe's radio waves around the Square One area, and not recognizing it as a Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) or Radio-com licensed station, followed the waves to UTM. CRTC specifically looks at the content of broadcasting whereas Industry Canada is responsible for broadcasting in Canada.

"They came to us and politely asked us for our papers. We gave them our exemption (from having a Radio-com license) papers from 1994. There was no expiry date on the papers and we assumed they were still good. We also gave them our receiver papers as well. When they saw our exemption papers, they were not sure if they were good or not. They came back to us a few days later and explained that the papers were no good because they expired. They were really nice about the whole thing," said Vibe Station Manager Taban Nabi.

"There is a lot of illegal radio in the Greater Toronto Area and that's why they were doing random checks. Under normal circumstances you would not be able to pick us up as far away as Square One but they were using special equipment. They knew we weren't doing anything illegal when they came and saw our setup in the Student Centre. We were also the only ones with exemption papers out of everyone they've busted and that's why they helped us out by giving us the appropriate application forms. Most of the people they found broadcasting illegally were in basements and vans," said Deputy Station Manager Adam Sherkus.

As a result, Vibe had to switch off their FM signal. Currently, they only broadcast in the Student Centre and over the Internet.

"At this point, we have to get a Radio-com license from Industry Canada. We will fill out the Radio-com application forms and hopefully in a couple of weeks we will be able to turn our signal back on," said Sherkus.

Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) College Affairs Commissioner Matt Sullivan does not feel that this will stop Vibe from obtaining their desired CRTC license. "From my understanding, Industry Canada had nothing negative to say. They didn't know that Vibe was allowed to be broadcasting – they thought it was a pirate station," he said.

Campus police reports for Nov. 10-16

November 10, 2001 12:00 p.m. INTRUSION ALARM: University Police attended to a reported intrusion alarm at a lab in the South Building. The lab area was checked and found secure.

November 10, 2001 9:50 p.m. MEDICAL EMERGENCY: A female resident student called the University Police for assistance in assessing her housemates injury after the housemate twisted her ankle. The female was transported to hospital for treatment by a friend.

November 11, 2001 4:20 a.m. SUSPICIOUS PERSON: A female resident student called the University Police to report that a suspicious male had knocked on her unit's front door and then ran away. The residence areas were searched but the male was not found.

November 11, 2001 9:15 p.m. MISSING PERSON: The aunt of a UTM student called the University Police to report her nephew missing after her nephew's vehicle was found abandoned by Halton Regional Police. The male was found the next day by Halton Police with minor injuries due to overnight exposure.

November 13, 2001 2:10 p.m. MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT: A minor motor vehicle accident occured in Parking Lot #8 when a vehicle struck another vehicle while trying to park.

November 13, 2001 2:20 p.m. THEFT UNDER $5000: A female student attended the University Police office to report the theft of her wallet after she left it unattended at a payphone in the Student Centre.

November 14, 2001 2:15 a.m. INTRUSION ALARM: University Police attended to a reported intrusion alarm at a lab in the South Building. The lab area was checked and found secure.

November 14, 2001 4:50 a.m. INTRUSION ALARM: University Police attended to a reported intrusion alarm at a lab in the South Building. The lab area was checked and found secure.

November 15, 2001 11:00 a.m. VEHICLE TOWED: University Police ordered a vehicle towed off property from Parking Lot #5 after the vehicle was found to have 15 parking tickets issued to it while on University property.

November 16, 2001 2:40 a.m. MEDICAL EMERGENCY: University Police investigated a male who apparently had punched a brick wall inside the Blind Duck Pub. The male appeared to have broken his hand and was being transported to hospital by friends. There was no damage to the wall.

November 16, 2001 11:10 a.m. VERBAL ALTERCATION: University Police attended to a verbal altercation between a male student and a community member regarding the male students driving abilities. Information was passed to Peel Police for investigation.

Hockey night in pub

UTMAC and the pub held hockey night last Saturday in the Blind Duck Pub. The Medium's Editor-in-Chief on the left walked away with a sweet hockey jersey. *photos courtesy UTMAC*

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ECSU has AGM

Here's the huge load of pizza ECSU gave the 15 students at the end of the AGM. *photo/Melissa Verge*

continued from front page

to October 31 is $18,155 and $15,600 respectively.

"We can't account for these huge differences," said Mirza. "Mary made the budget last year and it was not apparent what the dollar figure would be for these items."

Services Coordinator Danielle McDonald admitted that Oktoberfest was a disappointment due to lack of student spirit. "I figured if we charged less, we could get more people to go and have a chance this year at winning the Spirit Award. But a week before the event , it didn't even look like we were going to get one full bus. After the one bus was full, I decided that we weren't going to sell any more tickets because only sending half a bus or less would cost us a lot of money. We started a waiting list for people who still wanted to go, and when it reached 50 people, I was told to add a second bus. Against my wishes, I did. I called all the people on the waiting list to tell them we added another bus, but only 11 people showed up that day," she said.

When asked if they think students feel appreciated by the free pizza given out on Student Appreciation Day to the few students who wander into the Student Centre, Paul Banwatt, Special Projects Director, said, "It's somewhat of a reward to students who come in here. Not only do we give out free pizza on Student Appreciation Days, but last time we gave out candy as well. We are trying to advertise these days to students as much as possible to gain from our appreciation days," he said.

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Friday Nov.23
The Blackboard Blues Band
Saturday Nov.24
Johnny Max
*All food specials are with a beverage purchase and in house only. Expire Dec. 31, 2001

ECC cancellations upset students

continued from front page

upcoming double cohort) so the ECC meetings should be able to carry on. As a voting member on the council I feel that I should be more informed as to why these cancellations are happening, instead of having to wait for the meeting and learning the details after the fact."

The council met once for the semester in September. Since then, no meetings have been held. According to Section 4 of the consitution, 'The Council shall meet at least three times per term in each of the fall and spring terms.'

Matt Sullivan, Erindale College Student Union (ECSU) College Affairs Commissioner feels that the cancellation of the meetings are in direct violation of the constitution if the required three are not met by the end of the semester.

"I find it unacceptable that the administration is failing to meet the rights of the constitution and address the rights of the students," he said.

Mcnutt said he felt there was no need for the meetings because nothing significant was brought forward to the council. "I suppose technically that it is a violation of the constitution but there was nothing to report to the coucil as yet. Right now, we are waiting on the provinvial governement and the course calendar for next year is not ready to be approved. If someone has something that they want to discuss at the coucil, they should bring it forward and let us know," said McNutt.

Poe said, "Had other business been brought to us (myself, the principal or the secretary of the council) by any member of the College during these two months, the meetings would have been held. Last week the council's Executive Committee met and decided that we could no longer allow the St. George campus scheduling of work to affect the conducting of business of our Council. And we now have a full agenda of business for the December meeting. But I hope it's clear how we came to be in this position. You can be confident that [the cancellations] was an unintentional occurrence which the Executive Committee is determined not to see repeated."

> "I would venture to say that most students on the ECC don't even know how to bring concerns forward to be discussed"
> – Jan Maw

Residence Manager Jan Maw said that students may not be aware of how to voice issues to the ECC council. "I think that most students have been wondering why ECC is only revolving around future expansion concerns and not any other possible agenda items. Some concerns in other areas must have been voiced to the ECC executive. If no concerns have been voiced, maybe the lines of communication need to be evaluated or upgraded to be more open for student input. I would venture to say that most students on the ECC don't even know how to bring concerns forward to be discussed," he said.

Sullivan feels the first meeting for the semester was held too quickly, not allowing students to be fully represented in campus affairs.

"I was not happy that the first meeting happened so quickly in the beginning of the semester because students were not given enough notification. We were told that the meeting had to be held as soon as possible because of the expansion taking place at UTM. Now there is nothing. If there is a lot to do, why haven't we met again?" said Sullivan.

"We should have the first meeting again because students didn't know anything about it. At the beginning of the semester, there is new student membership and you have to give time for students to get in."

Students' Administrative Council (SAC) Nicole Phillips said she thinks these cancellations will discourage students from wanting to participate in college affairs.

"I think it's disheartening to students because, if they went through the trouble of getting nominations and the meetings have been cancelled three times already, it will not encourage students to participate in college issues and it ultimately diminished their voice in the college. The campus doesn't revolve around expansion – there are other issues that need to be discussed, even if it's just upadates from different councils and committees," she said.

ECSU President Erick Mckinlay agreed with Phillips. "There is a need for students to develop a culture of going to meetings – it promotes the other students to go. Students have not been given that chance because these meetings are not taking place."

The next ECC meeting is scheduled for December 6. McNutt promised that this meeting will be held. "We willdefinitely have a meeting on December 6 and we may have more than three meetings next term to compensate for this term," he said.

Bailamos!

ECSU held their latin night last Tuesday. The group Banda Bella performed for UTM and released their new CD. *photo/Melissa Verge*

Students react to crash

Students tell how the recent crash affects them

BY MELISSA TURNER

On November 12, New York City was once again faced with death and devastation when American Airlines flight #587, enroute to the Dominican Republic, plummeted to the ground shortly after take-off from JFK International Airport.

To add to the misfortune of this event, the plane crashed into the residential neighbouhood of Rockaway, Queens, killing all 260 passengers and nine crew members on board. Many civilians were taken to the hospital and currently there are six people in the area of the crash who are still missing.

> "What adds to the terror of this event is the fact that Roxbury resembles any suburb in Canada and the U.S. That fact really hit home for me"
> – Monica Anderson

"What adds to the terror of this event is the fact that Rockaway resembles any suburb in Canada and the U.S. That fact really hit home for me. It made me feel like this could happen anywhere," said Monica Anderson, a graduate student at UTM.

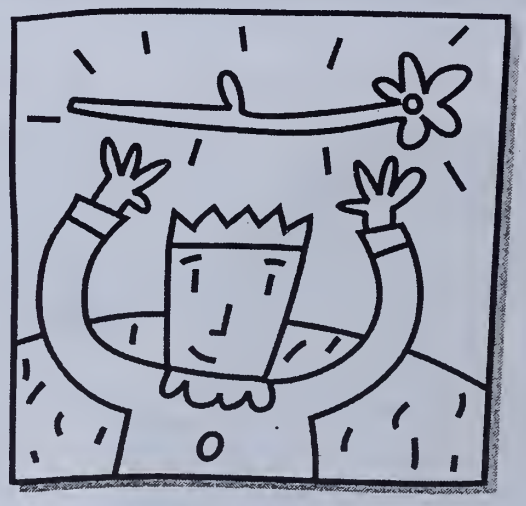
With the airline's economy already shaky, and with the recent bankruptcy of Canada 3000, it is interesting to know how students, many of who have to travel home in a couple of weeks, feel about this accident occurrign so close to Christmas break.

Students continue to travel inspite of the tragic events. Sola Miatudila, a fourth-year student said that he does not have a choice: "I live in the Congo, Africa, and can only go home now and then in the summer. I am definitely going home. Trains, and buses are not options for me. The only way I can travel is by plane."

Other students echoed similar sentiments. Jeron Rose, a graduate student at UTM said that he does not feel safe travelling at this time but for different reasons. "Because of the dramatic drop in business, ailines have laid off a large number of employees. I feel that because there are less employees working at the airlines that the quality of service has declined. It makes me nervous to this that because they cut down the number of jobs, that certain security measures may be overlooked simply because they do not have the money and manpower to perform these tasks."

On the whole this event is very tragic. "It's just sad. After September 11, everyone cancelled their flight plans because they were scared to travel. Now everyone was starting to relax a little bit and start travelling again. Those people were just trying to escape the hysteria happening in the States. For this accident to happen now is completely devastating," said Jeremy Whitaker, a UTM student.

Express Yourself, Don't Oppress Yourself



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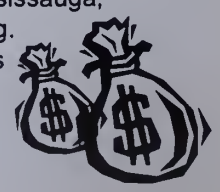

Calendar informs UTM

BY MICHELLE DALEY

Want to know what's happening on campus, but don't know where to look?

Well, stop scratching your head and click onto the new Events Calender on UTM's homepage to get all the information you need.

The UTM Events Calendar is designed to be a source of information for students, staff and faculty, but also a communications tool for the community to find out what's happening on campus.

This user-friendly site displays all current events taking place and allows users to go through the calender by day or month and it has a search option for specific events. If you need help, the calender can walk you through step by step.

The calendar is plastered with the dates and details of every event taking place on campus. It's currently populated with information from the Career Centre, SAC, ECSU, the Blind Duck Pub and UTMAC, as well as faculty and academic events. Campus-wide events are on the way.

Recently set up by Student Centre Programmer Jason Nicols, the Calendar is a new venture that seeks to build an all in one calendar that students, faculty and community can refer to to know exactly what happens on or around campus. Dean of Student Affairs, Mark Overton feels that "this is an excellent resource for both students and faculty alike. I hope everyone will take advantage of this useful tool and learn all about the wonderful events taking place on campus."

> "It can go out to a large group of people and bring awareness to what's going on, around campus. I have it bookmarked on my favorites list"
> – Erick Mckinlay

The response by student leaders has been positive. "I think it's great," said ECSU President Erick McKinlay. "It can go out to a large group of people and bring awareness to what's going on, around campus. I have it bookmarked on my favorites list."

Nicole Phillips, SAC Mississauga Commissioner, also agrees. "This is definitely a good tool for students to use."

The Events Calendar is not only for checking out what's going on, but if you have an event and want it advertised, you can post it as a guest user. For any event to be advertised, it must be open to all students.

UTM community offered get flu shots

BY TINA BANKOVIC

This week, Health Service will be holding two more flu shot clinics. Students can get an injection that will protect them from certain types of flu. The clinic is free, and recommended both by Health Service and by the government. Students receive an injection in the arm and, within two weeks, will become immune to three strains of influenza.

The vaccine does not necessarily protect against a short-term flu, but it will protect against the more severe flues currently crossing the world.

"The flu shot is not going to protect you from an ordinary cold, but what it will protect you from is the worst of the flues that travel the globe and make people sick, possibly hospitalizing them," said Pat Ash, Manager of UTM's Health Service. "(The flu shots) are an effort to keep us all healthy and out of the hospital."

The vaccine has few side effects, the most common being an achy arm. Students remain in Health Service for 20 minutes after the injection, to ensure no more severe side effects are taking place. Once vaccinated, students are protected for up to one year.

The clinics will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Students who can't make it to either of these times should make an appointment with Health Service or with their family doctor to arrange another time to get the injection.

Oh baby!

CASE held their date auction pub last Thursday. The well attended pub brought lots of guys and gals to purchase their date. This dude here got a little racy. *photo/Kerrie Gill*

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Editorial

THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 11 CIRCULATION 5000 NOVEMBER 19, 2001

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ECC Impotence

EDITORIAL

The Erindale College Council (ECC) has been rendered useless so far this year – the council, which normally meets once a month, has held one meeting since the beginning of the school year.

ECC, the highest and most powerful governing body at UTM, has cancelled three consecutive meetings and a lot of students are getting upset. The one meeting that was held (in September) seemed to come out of nowhere – students received short notice – and students were told that this happened because of pressing growth issues on campus. Well, those pressing issues have disappeared and, sadly, so has the ECC. This is pathetic for a university that tries to encourage students to get involved in decision-making.

Principal McNutt and ECC Chair Edith Poe both said there's nothing to talk about – that is, until the campus hears from the provincial government about funding for growth. Well, they didn't say there's nothing to talk about, they said there are 'no significant agenda items.' No significant agenda items? Okay. So that means we don't hold *any* meetings?

We don't think ECC is setting a good precedent by only meeting when it wants to. Who decides what a 'significant agenda item' is anyway? Bring everything to ECC and let the council decide what is and what is not 'significant.'

How could it possibly hurt to, when in doubt, hold a meeting. Bring everyone up to speed on all campus issues, sit a panel of knowledgeable administrative department heads up in front of everyone and let them field questions, talk about the weather. Do something, not nothing. Let's not get out of the habit of having regular meetings. Let's not get lazy. Last week, we reported on the Pub Management Board and the Student Centre Management Board holding joint meetings – an idea we thought would save time for a lot of busy people on campus. This is different. This isn't making things more economical – this is outright subtraction.

How can anyone say there's nothing significant to talk about when students haven't even been given a fair chance to speak up? Faculty, staff, and administrators might not have anything to say – maybe students don't either, but jeez, let's find out for sure before we start assuming things.

McNutt and Poe said meetings may have taken place if other business had been brought to the council. But we agree with Residence Manager Jan Maw, who said most students probably don't know how to bring topics of discussion to the ECC. Why weren't students told that the meetings would be cancelled if they didn't bring issues forward? Students didn't have a chance – even students who are voting members on the council (informed leaders) have gone uninformed.

ECSU College Affairs Commissioner Matt Sullivan has a good idea: hold the first meeting again. That first meeting was meant to be introductory for many students who have never attended ECC and are unfamiliar with a lot of the issues the council deals with. If you listen to what students are saying, many didn't know about it and many students, in fact, don't know what's going on.

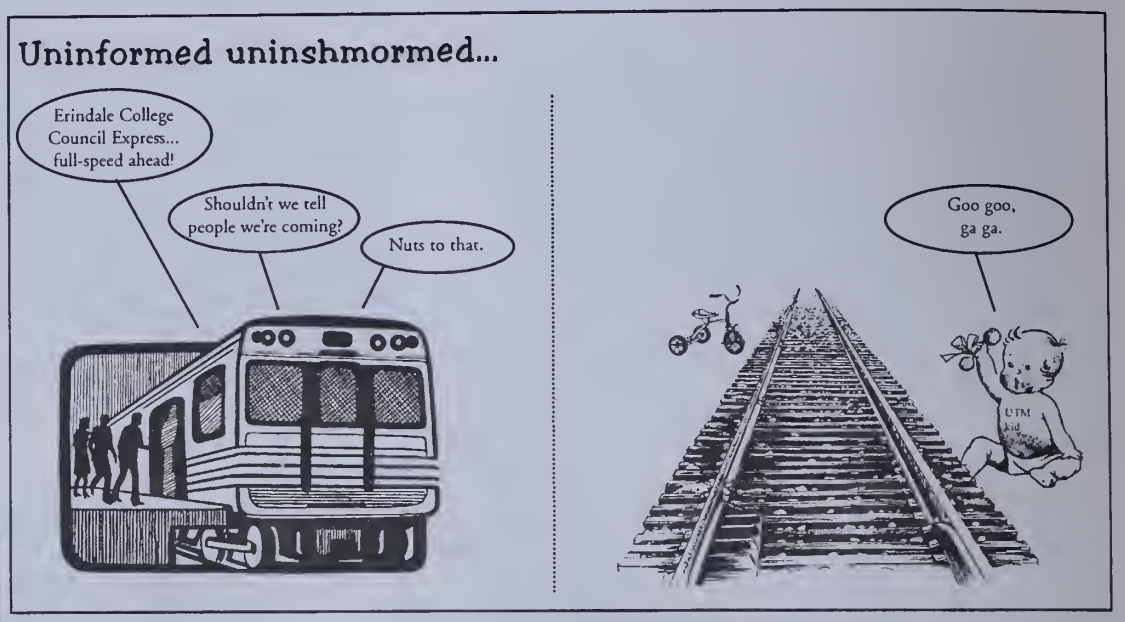
Dare we say the university is trying to exclude students? If this sounds like a harsh conclusion, consider a student's point of view: you hear a rumour about some introductory meeting that's going on and, even though you're interested in attending, you don't know who to ask about it and, by the time you find out when it is, you look at your Career Centre agenda and realize that it's long gone. Then you find out that the council's three subsequent meetings have been cancelled. You're in the dark. What else would you conclude?

We've criticized student apathy on this campus for a long time – and crap like this does nothing to remedy it. How can a student be expected to get involved and be interested in campus decision-making if their principal and other campus leaders seem uninterested in keeping regular meetings and dismissing issues they deem insignificant?

Regardless of whether or not ECC will violate its constitution (which it will if it doesn't call a third meeting before the end of this semester) we hope Poe will understand if we're not confident that "the Executive Committee is determined not to see [the cancellations] repeated."

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. **The Medium**'s mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network. Tammi Sulliman courtesy of the Fifth Wheel Tire Corporation.

Ass is brilliant - she fixed my mouse. Well done techy. Romano's eating stinky fish again. Fuck. Tammi's in a pissy mood. "I'm not for any shit," she says. Tammi is talking like B.A. Barracus. I pity the fool, I pity the fool. Fool! We have a tentative ranking for earliest girls in the office: Tammi, Melissa, Sylvia, Jen, Jackie, Ass, Richie. Jen and I went for potatoes. Ass and Tammi are having a conversation, talking at top speed, yelling at top volume. Fuckin' fuck. Ass doesn't think Romano ever changes his clothes. Tammi is verbalizing her thoughts. Quasimodo talks about himself in the third person - what a dick. Ass says monkey boy is a walking STD. This fucking printer is going to die soon - one more problem out of it and it's gonna get tortured. Tammi stepped on a roll of tape with her high-heel boots and it lodged itself in there. Nice move agent Sulliman. Melissa is super fur coming back in to help with pictures. Sorry Yvette, I fucked up. It's just me and Romano here now - the estrogen is definitely gone now. Jackie, don't worry, we love you. Good issue this week everyone. Best of the year? Who thinks so? Lets see some fuckin' letters. I'm fixing it. Thank Christ we've only got two issues left. Go Team Canada. I am...this is what a 16-pager costs. Fuckin' hell. Tomorrow I die like a pig. When I go, I go wo'ze bang.



What's wrong with ECC this year?

At the last meeting of our union, ECSU unanimously concluded that the behaviour of the UTM administration with respect to the Erindale College Council (ECC) has been unacceptable.

Open Letter

By Matt Sullivan
ECSU College Affairs Commissioner

The ECC last met just three days into the school year (on September 12). Notice of this meeting was given on September 10. This did not give students a reasonable amount of time to become aware and informed about the meeting or provide enough students with the opportunity to register for it.

The constitution of the ECC states that the council must give seven days notice prior to any meeting. In defence of this violation, Principal McNutt has said that this was an introductory meeting where no voting was to take place.

I ask Principal McNutt on behalf of the students to respond in this forum to two questions:
1) How can these violations of the ECC constitution be justified?
2) Can students expect that the next ECC meeting will actually occur?

Also, in light of the Master Plan and Plan 2004 and the amount that ECC must accomplish this year to set these plans into motion, there was no choice but to hold the meeting early in order to get the council moving. This year things were apparently supposed to move very fast.

I find both of these excuses intolerable. First, any introductory meeting should be aimed at those who are not familiar with the council or the issues it considers. Since the vast majority of Administration and Faculty are already aware of the ECC and the issues it has been discussing, this introductory meeting should have taken into account the satisfaction of student interest and curiosity. Yet, it was held before students could have realistically been expected to have even heard about it.

Secondly, the ECC doesn't really seem to be in too much of a hurry. The last three planned meetings have been cancelled and the ECC has not met since September 12. The ECC does not plan to meet again until December 6. Why you ask? Apparently there is nothing to talk about.

The ECC has four sub-committees, all of which have failed to bring any issues forth to be considered by the council so far. Some of these committees have not even met this year. With respect to the planning of the new buildings, UTM administration has done all it can to be prepared for the next ECC meeting.

However Erindale is still awaiting financial allocations to be made by separate entities over which the college has no control. Without a greater degree of financial certainty, the ECC can move no further in the planning of new buildings. And so we wait. No business, no meeting.

However there is just one little problem with this mentality. The constitution of the ECC requires that it meet three times per fall term. Even if history is made, and the council actually manages to have its first voting meeting in December, the council will have only met twice this term.

This is not a trivial matter, especially taking into consideration the poor scheduling of the last meeting. The ECC acts as a forum where the attending students can voice their concerns to the supreme body of the college. While Quality Service to Students (QSS) meetings exist in part to fulfil the function of entertaining student concerns, it is my understanding that this body rarely reports concerns to the ECC.

In my opinion QSS also fails as an adequate forum for concerns because of the time at which it meets (8:00 a.m.). However, this is another (but still related) issue in the general dismissal of student opinion at UTM. Yet, in all fairness, QSS should not have to act as any sort of substitute for ECC.

I feel tunnel vision on the part of the administration has led to the cancellation of the last three ECC meetings. The student voice cannot be ignored simply because the planning of new capital assets is not ready to be discussed. The plea of ignorance to student concern is of no value to me – the ECC should seek to be proactive. Even if the administration is not aware of any student concerns relative to the ECC, they do not somehow become entitled to pretend that such concerns do not exist.

I ask Principal McNutt on behalf of the students to respond in this forum to two questions:

1) How can these violations of the ECC constitution be justified?

2) Can students expect that the next ECC meeting will actually occur?

I ask Dean of Student Affairs Mark Overton on behalf of the students to respond in this forum to two questions:
1) As chair of QSS why have you not voiced any student concerns to the ECC?
2) If you feel that there are no concerns worth raising to the ECC, how can we say the QSS meetings are working?

I ask Dean of Student Affairs Mark Overton on behalf of the students to respond in this forum to two questions:

1) As chair of QSS why have you not voiced any student concerns to the ECC?

2) If you feel that there are no concerns worth raising to the ECC, how can we say the QSS meetings are working?

If it were not my belief that another introductory meeting of the ECC would simply waste more of students' time, the union would request one. The issue now is why these later meetings have not been held. The secretariat of the ECC captured the sentiment best: "There's no point calling a meeting just to have a meeting." I couldn't agree more. It's just too bad they missed the point.

Letters Policy

Letters to the editor will be edited for spelling, grammar, style, and coherence. Letters will not exceed 500 words in print. Letters that incite hatred, violence or letters that are racist, homophobic, sexist, or libelous, will not be published. Letters reflect opinions of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor-in-chief, other editors and staff, or *The Medium*'s Board of Directors. In other words, just because we print it doesn't necessarily mean we agree with it. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submission of a letter to *The Medium* presumes the writer has read, and agrees with, this Policy. Please submit letters on disk or e-mail to medium@canada.com.

OPINIONS

What's the deal with that damn Student Centre washroom?

For the past two year's I've been the Arts and Entertainment Editor of The Medium, so if anyone ever asked me how I felt about a certain issue that's in the news section of the paper, I would just shrug and say, "What do I know/care? I'm just the Arts and Entertainment Editor."

Opinion

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

There aren't many issues or problems that go on at UTM that I really care about. But there is one issue that I feel very, very strongly about. It's about the facility I used the most during my time at UTM: the girl's bathroom on the second floor of the Student Centre. It's had many growing pains during its short life. I think if we examine the history of this fine of repository of flatulence and the way it has been perpetually ignored and dealt with, we can use it as a kind of microcosm to understand and examine the way that problems are dealt with at UTM.

Let's start with the basics: the design of the space. It's a huge rectangle: long, narrow, and empty, echoing many of the empty architectural spaces in our Student Centre. With a bit more planning, I'm sure the length of these rooms could have been halved, making more space for another club office. I appreciate that it's rectangular structure leaves space for a foot bath, to be used by Muslim students, but if I were using it, I don't think I'd actually put my feet anywhere near it because it doesn't look very clean.

And why does there need to be a stall within the bathroom? It seems redundant to have a locking stall inside a locking room with only one toilet. Perhaps it's a reflection on many of the redundancies prevalent in the make-up of this campus. Or maybe it's some architectural post-modern thing that I understand far too well. And I don't want to bring up the fact that I can't understand how to turn the lights off in there – I guess it's some modern motion sensor thing – modern like the rest of the Student Centre. The whole building seems impersonal and unfinished.

Let's flashback to a few weeks after the Student Centre's opening in the fall of 1999. The building slowly become plastered with the names of corporate sponsors before students had been officially invited to "piss into the corners of the building" (so to speak) and make it their own. The girl's bathroom upstairs featured an ad from Zoom Media on the inside door of the stall, but didn't have a soap dispenser. This girl's lavatory is also rarely stocked with paper towels, which I thought was really fucking gross because if I ever had dieherrea, or a messy period, I had to walk next door to the boy's bathroom to properly wash my bloodied, shit-spattered hands. Apparently, in the year 1999, women did not need to use soap even though it's been scientifically proven that there's hundreds more types of dangerous bacteria in women's washrooms than in men's.

Finally, our news editor, Tammi Sulliman, brought the 'no soap' issue up at a Student Centre Management Board meeting, citing that the upstairs bathroom was used by many students on Thursday night because that's when the pub locks the downstairs washroom. There was obviously a need for the soap.

Two years after the upstairs' washroom was opened we finally have soap. I was overjoyed when I first saw it. But there were no more soft, neatly folded white paper towels overflowing the dispenser. Now scratchy, recycled paper, brown paper towels emerged from the holder. I supposed that UTM was cutting back, and wondered where else there might have been cutbacks. Or perhaps they had just signed some new exclusivity agreement with another distributor.

Two years after the upstairs' washroom was opened, months after the soap dispenser was installed, and weeks after it was finally filled with soap, the girl's loo became the proud owner of a new mirror. It meant that I no longer had to stare at my reflection in the mirrored elevator shaft outside to put on my lipstick, put in my contact lenses, or pull out a few squares of toilet paper that got lost in my pants.

Tonight, the girl's bathroom sits empty, like the rest of the Student Centre. I can't use it, even if I want to, because it's out of order. I wonder how long I will have to wait before it is fixed. Like the old days, I have to use the boys bathroom. I have to relocate, the same way that the CCIT program needs to be held in the Colman Lounge and the same way that residence students have to be turned away because UTM can't build buildings fast enough. I have to use the boy's bathroom because it's the only one that works and seems to consistently have soap. But it's out of paper towels.

Mckinlay on Residence

Dear Editor,

Freedom and stability. How much do we want to give one up for the other?

I have experienced several situations on our campus where it seems that we may have to ask that question.

How strict should a campus be in order for it to be considered acceptable?

How many rules should be continually applied to deal with what some consider improper behaviour?

Who should decide what rules apply to a student's life, administrators or students?

Guidelines for on-campus conduct have become more stringent and rules are becoming stricter.

At the same time the disciplining system itself lacks. The residence procedure, for example, starts with the report of an incident by a Residence Don or Residence Assistant and then brings in the Residence Manager, which is a semi-student leader, semi-administrator position.

The manager has the authority to take a person out of residence. If the student finds a ruling by the manager to be inappropriate, he/she can then appeal to the Director of Residence and can move on in the same manner to the Dean of Student Affairs, and finally the Principal.

The system may allow for an opportunity to discuss a student's situation outside of his/her appealing process.

This can indirectly allow the situation to be decided upon even before the accused student has had time to appeal to all the offices.

Those involved are also the ones who make policies on Residence. So the judicial, the executive and the legislative are all made into one – something free governments have found to be illegitimate.

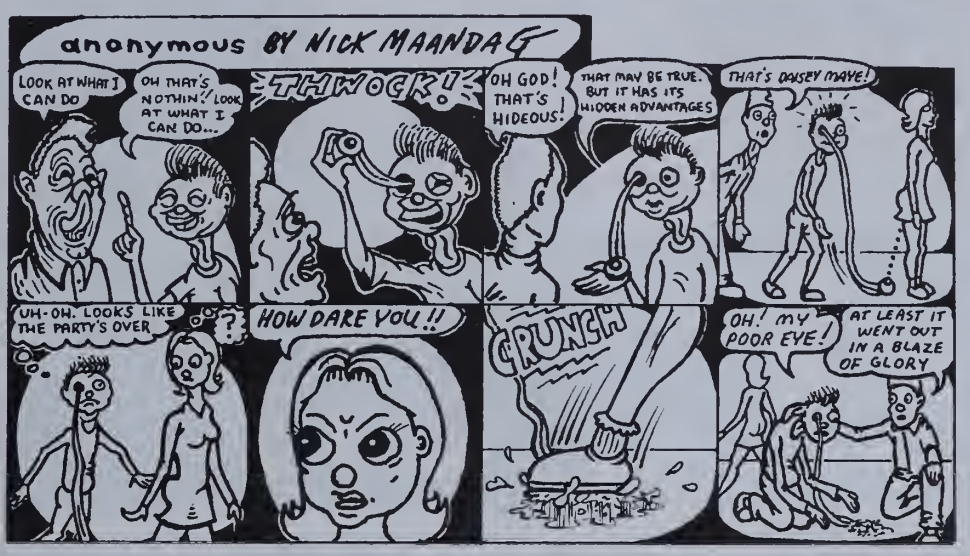
I strongly believe that a separate body should exist outside the offices I have previously mentioned. That would deal with student appeals on residence.

This would allow a student to be heard and dealt with impartially. The issue of student behaviour seems to be ever present, but only in the background of all that happens here.

It should be brought to a public forum and discussed with students.

Erick S. Mckinlay
ECSU President

BETWEEN CLASSES


anonymous BY NICK MAANDAG
LOOK AT WHAT I CAN DO
OH THAT'S NOTHIN'! LOOK AT WHAT I CAN DO...
THWOCK!
OH GOD! THAT'S HIDEOUS!
THAT MAY BE TRUE. BUT IT HAS ITS HIDDEN ADVANTAGES
THAT'S DAISEY MAYE!
UH-OH. LOOKS LIKE THE PARTY'S OVER
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HOW DARE YOU!!
CRUNCH
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Features

Stories, stories, stories...

Hockey: Part I, Kim

By Astrid Poei

It's late on a Monday night. I have a mid-term and two essays due. I haven't started studying for my mid-term, I haven't started my essays, and right now, I'm sitting on a bus on my way downtown to play ice hockey.

It's the same dialogue.

"Where's Kim?" someone asks.

"She probably came at seven and saw that there was no bus, got mad, and left without calling anyone," Chris, our coach, replies.

"She e-mailed me today and said she was coming to the game," Erin says.

My head jerks in her direction. Erin plays alumni. She got a job testing drugs on people. She always asks me to take Viagara for money – but I don't think I would do too well with a hard-on.

"Since when did Kim e-mail you?" I ask.

"Well she e-mails me because of softball. That was the only way we could keep in touch in the summer," Erin says.

I shrug and sit back down. I don't really care too much for Kim. Kim hates me. But I explain where Gina is. "She's coming to the game with her dad," I say.

Cheryl steps onto the bus. Excluding the people who live in residence, Cheryl lives the closest to the school, but Cheryl is always late.

"Astrid, I brought you some candies," she says.

"Great now we're going to be hauling ass tonight," I say.

I jump up and I grab a shiny green package. There is only one left now

"I'm going to give this one to Erin, because you had the candy last week, alright Deb?" Cheryl says.

Debbie nods.

"What kind is it?" Erin asks.

"Baskin Robbins," Cheryl says.

Erin smiles. I pop the candy into my mouth.

Soon we are on our way downtown. I count the players on the bus. More than half of our roster is missing. Where the hell are Liz, Chandra, Nadia, Chris, Holly, Sue and the two Jens? There are eight players on the bus – hardly enough for us to play a good game. I played ball hockey this morning and I played softball this afternoon. I'm tired.

The bright lights reflect off the bus windows. I relish in the moment of silence all of us undergo as we pass the new Ikea superstore.

"We should go there. We should say 'screw the hockey game, we're going to Ikea.'" Cheryl says.

Erin and Debbie chuckle. Debbie graduated last year with Erin but she took an extra course to play ice hockey. She didn't make the team though. She got cut because two first-year goalies came to the tryouts. She only comes out to watch us play. The year before I came to UTM, Debbie broke her leg taking skating lessons from Liz. After her leg healed, Debbie still came back to play goalie. Debbie has the biggest heart out of anyone I know.

The back of the bus is quiet. I don't know why, but all the rookies always sit at the back of the bus and all the veterans – Erin, Cheryl, Debbie and me – always sit at the front of the bus. Strange.

The bus whizzes down Spadina Avenue. The bus driver only slows down briefly to point out Classic Avenue.

"Now this is Classic Avenue. I'll be waiting here, and I'll be over in China Town having some Chinese food, so if you need to leave earlier, that's where I'll be," the bus driver says.

"I recommend Cantonese chow mein," I say.

The bus driver looks into the large mirror above her head.

"Now what is that? Is that the egg noodles?" she asks.

"It's egg noodles, but they're not thick like rice noodles. They're yellow though and they're deep-fried and then they put this stir-fry over it with seafood. It's good," I say.

The bus driver nods and she looks away from the mirror.

"I think it's stupid how we hate people for no reason," Erin says.

Erin tells Cheryl, Debbie, and me about how she hated a girl who she later became the best of friends with.

"...I remember when ball hockey started she came up to me and she was like 'I don't know why we ever hated each other.'" Erin says.

The bus stops in front of Varsity Arena. Sticks, bags, and pads are thrown out of the emergency exit.

It's close to game time. We split up into two dressing rooms – the rooks go into one room and the rest of us go in the other. I go in the room Gina's in. Kim and Liz burst through the door. Liz scoots me down and sits next to me.

"Holy fuck! I hate driving downtown," Liz says.

I laugh.

Kim is still standing at the door. She scans the room for somewhere to sit and I could scoot over again but Gina, Cheryl and Erin already have their socks on and I race to catch up.

Kim goes to the other room.

I'm the last one out of the dressing room. I skate around, while some players take shots and some players stretch. Kim stretches alone in the corner. I skate by her a couple of times but we don't acknowledge each other until she says, "You know I don't like that girl."

I stop and I skate back.

"Which one?" I say.

"The stupid one," Kim points.

I look across the ice.

"Well you don't like me very much either," I say.

I begin to skate away.

"I don't know," Kim yells after me. "I'm starting to get indifferent about you. You're getting to be a smart player."

I shrug. I look at the empty stands. I look at the referees with blue jeans.

I look at the other team who can barely skate and I look back at Kim and I realize that *this* is stupid.

Gido

By Tamara Sulliman

I walk into the T.V. room. Troy lies on the couch. He watches Manchester United and Aston Villa play a football game. Manchester United leads 2-1. We got American cable yesterday. Instead of having only three Trinidadian channels to choose from, we now have over 50 American channels. I want to watch MTV. Troy watches ESPN. I walk up to Troy and grab the remote from him.

"My turn to watch what I want. You've been watching sports for the whole day. It is not fair."

Troy looks at me and grinds his teeth – he grinds them when he gets angry. "The game is almost finished. Only 20 minutes left. You can watch whatever you want when the game is done."

I pitch the remote control at Troy. "Fine. You always get what you want."

Troy smiles a half smile. I sit down on the chair facing him and wait for the game to finish. I feel thirsty and hungry. My belly grumbles. Troy looks at me.

"You hungry or what?"

"Yeah man. We have any food?"

"Nah...don't think so. Let's go over to Taita."

"You think she has food?" My belly grumbles again.

"Yeah, I think she was making kebbeh this morning. Let's go." Troy gets up from the couch. He walks over to me, grabs my hand and pulls me to my feet.

Troy, my younger brother, sometimes feels like an older brother to me. A year apart and we do everything together. When I went out with my first boyfriend, Dean, Troy became protective. He wanted to know exactly where I was going and with whom and if Dean would be there. Troy and his friends even had a talk with Dean, telling him that he better not hurt me or else. When Dean and I broke up, I had to convince Troy that I broke up with Dean, not the other way around. Troy told me that if Dean broke up with me, Dean would have to watch his back.

Troy liked to fight.

I follow Troy out the front door, down the driveway, through my Taita's back garden and in their back door. I smell freshly fried kebbeh. My belly grumbles.

"Asalamwalaikum, Taita. Is Gido here?" Troy calls out.

"Walaikumasalam, Troy. Yes he is." My grandmother rounds the corner and faces us. She dries her hand on a stained blue dishcloth. "Yall hungry?"

"Yes Taita. Can we have some kebbeh?" I hug my grandmother. I tower over her. She smells of coconut oil and blended herbs. I love my Taita.

Taita tiptoes and kisses me on my cheek. She wiggles from my embrace and walks over to the fried kebbeh. Gido walks into the kitchen. I bow my head.

"Asalamwalikum Gido," I whisper.

"Walaikumasalam Tamara." He brushes past me and walks over to his coffee pot. He pours water in the pot and places it on the electric stove, turning it on.

"Asalamwalaikum Gido," says Troy.

Gido looks at the pot of water as it boils. Troy waits for a response. He always waits for a response that never arrives. My heart breaks every time.

I am the eldest grandchild. I am a girl. Troy is the eldest grandson. In an Arab family, boys take precedence over the girls. But our mother is white. Our mother is Catholic.

My grandfather barely acknowledges Troy. Gido wanted to name Troy Abraham. My mother refused. Mummy wanted to name Troy 'Troy' because her name is Helen. I have never heard my Gido calls my brother "the boy," "your brother," "your son." My brother acts like it doesn't bother him.

"Umm Taita, I'm not so hungry anymore. " I walk up to Taita and rub her shoulders.

"You sure Tammi?" asks Troy. He looks nervous.

"Yeah man, I think there is spaghetti in the fridge or something. I'll cook you something."

Troy looks at me and nods. "Okay, let's go." Gido takes a spoon of his Arabic coffee and dumps it into the boiling water and stirs.

"Bye Taita, bye Gido!" I take Troy's hand and lead him out the door.

"Bye Tammi and Troy!" my grandmother calls out.

As we walk out the door, Troy bends down and kisses me on my cheek. "Thanks man."

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Linklater's *Waking Life* a philosophical stoner's dream come true

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

Wiley Wiggins (Dazed and Confused) returns in cartoon form for *Waking Life*, along with other Linklater alums such as Julie Delpy and Ethan Hawke. Don't do drugs before seeing this movie, because it will really mess you up.

Ever had trouble trying to wake up from a dream, because every time that you think you've woken up, you're actually still dreaming?

I've never felt the need to do many drugs, probably because the worst headtricks I experience have occured while I was reading a book, watching a movie, or sleeping. Director Richard Linklater combines these three pastimes to create the film, *Waking Life*, the pseudo-animated story about a man (Wiley Wiggins, from the ealier Linklater film *Dazed and Confused*) who lives in this unconscious world that he can't seem to escape. It's a daring feature because it takes every risk a director can take in a film – it lacks a narrative, it's all dialogue, there's little action, it features as many characters as a Robert Altman movie, and it's underlying tone is as screwed up as dream logic. To paraphrase Steven Soderburgh's cameo in the film, when you describe *Waking Life* it doesn't sound like the kind of movie a studio would want to invest any money in.

It's also animated in this funny, constantly quivering, low-budget fashion that you only see in educational films - which runs completely counter to the adult, sophisticated, philosophical themes, potentially stretching the film in too many directions. But amazingly, Linklater makes it all work by keeping the fairly silent and easy to relate to main character as a constant, occasionally weaving in recurring characters, ideas and images for added continuity.

Waking Life is not for people who want to sit back in their chair and be passively entertained – it's for viewers who treat their films like a piece of art and engage with it by really thinking about what's going on. If you're the type who sits around Starbucks all day pondering the nature of death, change, human consciousness, and the concept of time, you'll probably enjoy *Waking Life*. It's incredible how all of the characters in the film, during their brief appearances and re-appearances, articulate every weird, random thought you've ever had about the composition of our universe, and universal consciousness. However, just before the film gets too heavy, it turns inward on itself to mock what's it's doing, which is fantastic because as much as I like to think about philosophical stuff, I get turned off by stoner logic when it starts to take itself too seriously. I was happiest when the film followed the rules of silly dream logic instead of waxing too philosophical, as character's heads morphed into gears as they began talking about gears. Then again, maybe I'm just intimidated by people who read more than I do.

Linklater's lead character keeps trying to wake himself out of this state of unconsciousness continually by overcoming his own dream logic, but in a pedantic struggle, he just spirals deeper and deeper into a cycle that is continuous, yet fractured. Linklater's own appearance as one of the characters in the film adds another level of complexity, forcing the viewer to draw parallels between filmmaking as a process with the structure of written narratives, and the structure of dream narratives. Linklater even cleverly jabs at his past films, as he incorporates Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy in *Waking Life* during a scene where they seem to revisit their roles from Before Sunrise, talking about the nature of time, and reincarnation while lying in bed on a sunny morning.

I'm not sure about how I'd feel watching *Waking Life* for a second time – I definitely want to watch it again. But it was interesting enough the first time around that it's changed my mind about how I feel about movies: I now no longer feel that in order for a movie to be considered good, it has to be rewatchable. And if a film can change the way you think about films, I think that it's accomplished something great.

Erindale's *Glengarry* sells itself at Hart House Theatre

THEATRE REVIEW

BY RICHIE MEHTA

The Leads. Always the leads. When I first encountered David Mamet's play *Glengarry Glen Ross*, I was blown away by the vicious circle of lead-happy salesmen. I never knew that people – more specifically, men – could be so cruel and so shrewd on a daily basis in the working world. The play was, in fact, the first indication I had that the law of the jungle applied to the city.

Theatre Erindale took on this character-driven play last week at the Hart house theatre and man, did they put on a show.

The play follows a group of real estate salesmen: Dave Moss (Dan Benakoun) – the bitter, angry loser, Shelley "the machine" Levene (Nicholas Carella) – the washed up loser, George Aaronow (Vince Pecorella) – the slow-witted loser, John Williamson (Brian Sison) – the office manager loser, and Ricky Roma (Rick Duthie) – who, for the time being, is the only winner. Roma is "the top name on the board," he's sold the most this month. The others are all on the verge of unemployment, and take desperate measures to avoid this. But plot isn't a concern here. Neither Mamet, nor the audience, really cares what is happening as much as what might happen. Characters swear, back stab, yell, spit, and laugh in each other's faces. Characters kick each other when they're down. Even if Shelley's daughter is sick in the hospital, Williamson will fire him if he feels like it.

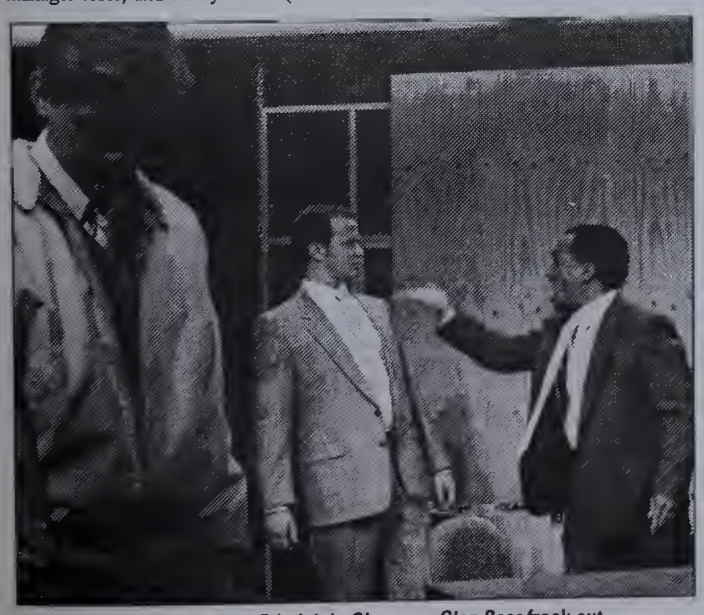
And the Erindale actors brought this mood out wonderfully. Duthie's Roma captures the character's slick operating style nicely, as he tries to con a depressed bar patron into buying land in Florida. (Although later on, when he explodes at Williamson for screwing the deal up, Duthie reaches a crescendo in his delivery a little too early, muting the effect of his building anger).

Sison counteracts this with his comparatively sublime Williamson, who seems to take in everything from everyone, until he explodes in convulsions and saliva, verbally assaulting George with the infamous line "will you go to lunch!"

Carella's Levene starts off a little slowly in terms of winning audience sympathy, but once he enters the second act, he truly captures Levene's false sense of confidence and ultimate dread of defeat.

I must admit, I entered the play wearily comparing every expression, line, and movement to James Foley's earlier film adaptation with Al Pacino, Kevin Spacey, Jack Lemmon, Ed Harris, and Alec Baldwin. But as the play went on, the most remarkable thing happened: I didn't think about the film.

Theatre Erindale's Glengarry Glen Ross played at the Hart House theatre November 14 and 16.



Cast members from Theatre Erindale's *Glengarry Glen Ross* freak out.

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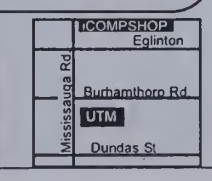

ZOINKS! Jim Millan directs the Scooby gang's return

INTERVIEW

By Andrea Civichino

Ree hee hee... Scooby and the gang are scheduled to make only one Canadian stop at the Canon Theatre in Toronto. Zoinks!

The mastermind behind this production is Jim Millan, director and author of *Scooby-Doo in Stagefright.* Founder of Crow's Theatre in Toronto, Millan began working on this project a year ago, shortly after producing and directing "Kids in the Hall Tour 2000."

Millan's unique sense of wit and humor, along with his interest in producing a stage comedy, landed him an opportunity to write a stage production for the number one rated show on the Cartoon Network for children 2-5 for 2000. The cartoon tied for the third spot with adults.

So why the Scooby-craze? Millan says that "everyone has great affection for Scooby and the gang." The live stage show will give fans of all ages the opportunity to see their favourite characters; Fred, Daphne, Velma, Shaggy and Scoobs, demonstrate their comical brand of detective work.

The show centralizes around a supernatural specter that is wrecking havoc at the old Clawhammer movie studio; where Daphne's uncle is the cool and hip movie director. The gang is on a mission to collect clues and solve perplexing puzzles while traveling in their Mystery Machine.

"The physical comedy performed live by these beloved characters, mixed with traditional spooky fun and surprises from the classic animation series, expands Scooby-Doo and the gang's world in an exciting new way," says Millan. Millan further notes that the theatre production is very faithful to the animation. A full size Mystery Machine will be part of the set design and the collaboration of scary tunes and effects will be used to create the familiarity of the cartoon along with a spooky, suspenseful story line.

A flattering photograph of *Scooby-Doo in Stagefright*'s director, Jim Millan.

There will also be plenty of Scooby snacks. Millan says that it was easy to write a production about something that the audience already knows so much about because you can get right into the mystery without character development.

"We all feel that we already know them," says Millan. Although he could not confirm if Fred and Daphne are really "an item," he did share that love is in the air when Shaggy falls in love with the movie director's assistant.

The production is unique, and as Millan boasts, it's the collaboration of so many different talented people who worked on the set. Mark McKinney, "Kids in the Hall Star" and script consultant is just one familiar name and face who's originality and hilarity was used to create this stage production.

Scooby-Doo in Stagefright will only be in town for five nights before loading up the Mystery Machine and heading for the U.S. The crew will be performing in New York City at the legendary Radio City Music Hall in February 2002.

Scooby-Doo in Stagefright plays at the Canon Theatre December 5 to 9

Toronto fans enjoy the sweet taste of *Cake*

CONCERT REVIEW

By Laurence Cymet

Cake came to Toronto, one of only two sold-out Canadian shows, with their hot-rod, country-blues, hip-hop brand of big rock. The first thing that struck me about this concert was that Toronto *really* likes *Cake*. They received a standing ovation as they walked onstage. The stadium was almost empty for the opening act *Spoon*. The security guards constantly asked people to stop dancing in the aisles – which made me wonder if Massey Hall was an odd choice for such an energetic crowd. Still, *Cake* put on an excellent show that was truly for the crowd – singer John McCrae asked if everyone would leave if they played "The Distance." The song was played and the crowd refused to leave – as McCrae kept pointing out during the show.

Since *Cake*'s original album, *Fashion Nugget* featuring the hit single "The Distance," most of the band has moved on. Despite this, *Cake* seems to be getting better and better. Their second album featured the hit "Never There" and the third and newest release from *Cake*, Comfort Eagle, is making similar headway. The new single "Short Skirt, Long Jacket" is receiving much success and was truly enjoyed by the Toronto crowd as McCrae had the two sides of Massey Hall competing in a sing off to see who could "Na Na Na" louder. The interaction continued with "Satan is my Motor," which extended into the prolonged chanting of the crowd as it got in touch with its dark side.

McCrae amazed me with his ability to be both soulful and completely monotone and droll at the same time. I think most *Cake* fans would agree that the tall, goatee sporting, hard-looking McCrae does a better "I will Survive" than Gloria Gaynor. *Cake*'s amazing cover was true to the version on the album, but sadly lacked in embellishment for the live show.

My one big complaint with this concert was that the soulful trumpet of Vince DiFiore was very quickly drowned out by the rest of the band – I had to struggle to hear him. It sounded as if his microphone was turned down too low. *Cake* certainly gives the underated trumpet its due respect – DiFiore's trumpet may never go into the solos that I wish it would, but it certainly plays a strong part in *Cake*'s music, in contrast to other bands that might use horns as strictly a backup instrument. Another instrument that played an important part in *Cake's* ensemble was John McCrae's snake rattler, a wood device that makes (you guessed it) as rattling noise when struck. And McCrae played this instrument to the crowd with profound joy – he'd hold it up, ready to strike, while the crowd waited on the edge of their seats to hear its distinct sound.

Cake easily pleased their Toronto fans, and they truly appreciated the patronage, thanking the crowd profusely. I'm sure those who were new to *Cake* walked out fans in the end.

Cake played at Massey Hall on Friday, November 9.

A fun-looking picture of Cake in concert. They're currently touring North America.

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Monsters Inc. won't scare away movie-lovers

MOVIE REVIEW

BY JENNIFER MATOTEK

When you were a little kid, and you imagined that there were monsters in your closet, or under your bed, you probably never gave much thought to what the monsters did during the day. Pixar's *Monster's Inc.* concludes that the monsters that live in kids' closets by night, have their own little universe, not unlike our own, except that the cities are fueled by children's screams instead of electricity – making scaring a necessity. And believe it or not, monsters are actually more scared of children, than children are of them.

Monsters Inc. is a clever and enjoyable film that sets up a neat premise, and plays it out down to the last humorous detail in a way that appeals to adults and children. The computer animated movie focuses on Sully and Wakowski, two 'scarers' who work at *Monsters Inc.* Sully, voiced by John Goodman, is the top 'scarer' of the company, while Wakowski (Billy Crystal), his partner, organizes the paperwork and powers up the closet doors.

Even though Wakowski and Sully are computer-generated, they have a chemistry together on screen that seems very real. Many of the other monsters in the film, such as Waternoose (James Coburn), are modeled, animated, and voiced with such believability that, like Shrek, you view the characters the same

Above and left: Sully, the hairy monster (voiced by John Goodman), and Wakowski, the one-eyed monster (voiced by Billy Crystal), are more afraid of children than children are of them in *Monsters Inc.*

way as you would a real-life character. The one human character in the film, a little girl whom Sully names Boo (voiced by real-life four year old Mary Gibbs), is so sweet and believable it breaks your heart. And Randall, the villain of the film, is so evil that he will really make your skin crawl.

Monsters Inc. isn't quite as good as previous Pixar films, such as *Toy Story* and *Toy Story 2,* but it's genuinely entertaining, funny, and touching, with a few surprises and moments of very sophisticated humour that only adults will enjoy. It's incredible to watch the advances made in the field of computer animation, and with every new computer generated film that comes out, I become more and more amazed at the flexibility of the medium.

Some scenes in *Monsters Inc.* look so photo-real that it's downright startling, but there's also some other scenes which are less impressive – but luckily, these less-polished cuts are dispersed sporadically throughout the movie. If you're looking for a wholesome film that's entertaining for the whole family, I recommend Monsters Inc.

But I should warn you that if your child is oversensitive, they might start crying during the sad moments of the film, like the little girl in front of me did when I saw the movie for a second time.

Survivor Africa: Recycled plan backfires

TV REVIEW

BY ROBERT CHAN

Why does Jeff Probst keep feeding these people? I thought these so-called survivors were supposed to be living off the land, not Mountain Dew product placements.

The worst part was when the survivors fought for their prey with challenging true or false questions. And what mighty prey they won; sandwiches, pasta, vegetables and pop drinks, everything the African bushman needs after a long day of hunting and gathering.

Bad enough these people can't make fire, something even a caveman could have accomplished without the assistance of a match, but they needed Probst to feed them as well.

At least Clarence had the right idea with the chickens. You're supposed to eat them, not wait around until they lay an egg. I think the rest of Boran found that out when they tried to split the egg amongst a bunch of hungry hippos. That's the law of one egg – it's not supposed to feed more than one person.

What's up with the former Boran tribesman? Don't they understand that nighttime is meant for sleep, not staying awake and watching the lions circle the camp? I know I was hard on the lazy three of Lindsey, Brandon and Kim, but when you think about it, I'd be sleeping too with lions roaming about. It's not like lions can hurt you or anything.

What can hurt you is a big mouth, something Brandon knew all too well. For some reason Brandon forgot the first rule of secret meetings: don't yell out your plan to the enemy. Of course it never occurred to Brandon or his intellectually dependent friends to make up a fake plan and yell that out, because they were too busy setting up their Colby strategy.

Do I have to teach these people everything? What worked on Survivor I and II won't work here. These contestants must've spent all their preparation time watching old Survivor tapes and not developing any sense of logic.

People are naturally paranoid. Prey on that. Also, if you tell someone you've got a vote against you, they're not going to believe it. If you want someone to vote against you to save a member of your alliance, act like you've already got votes and tell the one with votes to calm you down in front of the others. Natural human assumption will take over and the enemy will believe you've got the votes. Was that so hard?

Maybe I spend too much time thinking about these things, or maybe the producers thought it would be more fun to watch a bunch of Colby carbon-copies walking around in lion land.

I challenge these people to go head-to-head with me, they won't see the knife coming, mostly because it'll be in their back.

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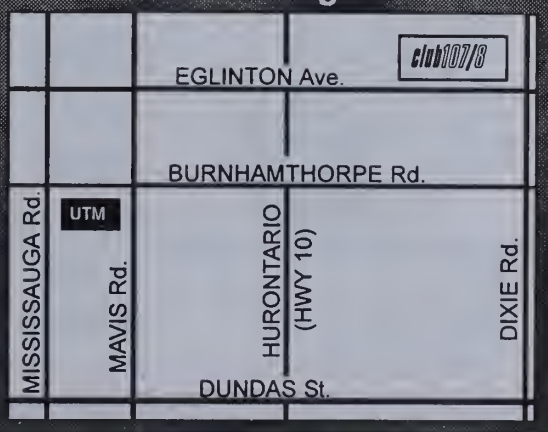

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CD reviews: Part one of *The Medium*'s holiday album-buying guide

ALBUM PICK OF THE WEEK

Sloan
Pretty Together
(BMG)

Last time I saw **Sloan** in concert, I was disappointed. I worshipped them all through high school after releases like *Twice Removed* and the *Peppermint* EP, but decided to see them live even though I really disliked their album they had just released, *Money City Maniacs*. I tried to enjoy the evening, but they really sucked – I have trouble respecting bands who act all full of themselves, and make fun of their audience. Later Sloan releases, like *Navy Blues*, seemed uninspired and began to fuel my downright dislike for the band.

Their newest album, *Pretty Together*, sounds like the boys are getting back to basics and are really having fun with it – perhaps being away from thousands of screaming Japanese fans have made Sloan more humble.

Pretty Together is a pretty solid album – at least as good as some of their older releases like Twice Removed, but certainly not better. The melody of "The Life of a Working Girl" reminds me of older songs, like and rockin' tunes like "If it feels good do it" have that certain well-engineered crispness that make you want to listen over, and over and over again.

A remarkable sixth effort from what used to be one of my favorite Canadian bands.

-Jennifer Matotek

CD REVIEWS

BY RICHIE MEHTA

Emma Bunton
A Girl Like Me
(Virgin)

So I've developed this reputation of liking the **Spice Girls**. I have everything they've ever released, and I actually like a lot of it. They reached their peak with "Viva Forever" and "Goodbye." Then Mel C came along and did some interesting things with Left Eye Willie, er, Lopez.

Now, **Emma Bunton** (Baby Spice) has released a solo album, *A Girl Like Me*. I'm not sure where this came from, and I'm not sure why it exists, but it's here. And for the first time, I don't look forward to listening to the **Spice Girls.**

It could be that her voice and contribution to the **Spice Girls** is not as evident as Mel C's, or that her gimmick of "I'm a cute little girl, look at me" is just tired and old. Or maybe I'm jaded after seeing acts like Britney Spears and N'Sync take over music. Anyhow, I'm tired of wasting my time listening to music that exists only because the face of the star will sell albums.

Mind you, I still think **The Spice Girls** are a great act, and I'd like to hear what they do next. I wouldn't be saying any of this if I thought *A Girl Like Me* was any good, because it isn't.

What's it like? I'm not sure, and I don't care to think about it. In all honesty, I only listened to half of it before I turned it off. But if my opinion about it changes, I'll be sure to write a letter to the editor as a correction.

Sexy Beast Soundtrack
Various Artists
(Universal)

A perfectly bizarre accompaniment to a perfectly bizarre film, **Sexy Beast**, the soundtrack, is a strangely rhythmic companion to the Ben Kingsley dramedy. I say this because it's odd that the music works. On it's own, you may find it annoying, repulsive, or dismissive. With the film, and as an album, however, it works very well.

The opening track, "Peaches," by **The Stranglers**, is a great start to this sometimes jazzy, Massive Attack-esque electronic trip. Henri **Mancini**'s "Lujon" embodies this combination, with it's electronic hum, percussion background, and sinister tone. It's bank robbery music, alright, but for the cool, collected English criminal.

Sound bites lie in between the music, and although I hate sound bytes in soundtracks – if we wanted dialogue, we'd buy the movie – Ben Kingsley's lines are too hysterical to ignore. In fact, they provide the album with that extra originality.

Other artists on the album – **UNKLE** and **Dean Martin** – round out this compilation with even more variety – think Brian Eno meets the 50s. This may make no sense, but like the movie, you've got to experience it to appreciate it.

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Where's the Bob in *Bobroom*?

COMEDY REVIEW

BY STEFFEN REINHART

What is the Bobroom? Where is the Bobroom? Who is Bob?

The Bobroom is a sketch-comedy troupe that has been quite successful in the Toronto comedy scene. The six members (Jennifer Baxter, Mike Beaver, Stacey Depass, Jason Jones, Shaun Majumder and Rob Tinkler) have been making quite a name for themselves. Because of their success, *The Bobroom* is going to make the jump to the small screen. After being together for four years, they now have their own series coming up on Comedy Network this spring. *The Bobroom* will try to fill the shoes of *Kids in the Hall*, and try to make Canadian sketch comedy funny again.

On the third day of taping (at Trinity Studios in Toronto) they had several corny skits. There was a reoccurring sketch of over-weight women eating instead of exercising, which led to them to trying to eat each over, along with some bowling and dancing. The only good skit of the night had a "macho"-type character that just dumped his girlfriend. When she left the room, he started crying and lip-syncing to cheesy love songs while humping a pillow.

What made the taping worthwhile was the warm-up guy – who interacted with the audience when no sketch was being played out. At the beginning of the night and in between tapings this young guy would do whatever he could to make the audience laugh and not make them want to leave early. He didn't really succeed in keeping the audience in their seats as most of them left an hour into taping, but he did make everyone laugh pretty hard. He called a few people in the audience Italian porn stars, made crewmembers slap his naked 'behind,' and tried to get in bed with a 50-year-old lady in the front row. But the funniest thing he said was a story of something that happened to him at the Lilith Fair concert. He said he didn't really remember what happened, but when he woke up he was in the hospital "wearing a Hooters shirt and a sandal up [his] ass...that's a keeper!"

Maybe *The Bobroom* will be funnier when it's actually on TV, but I wasn't overly impressed. It doesn't have the edge or style *Kids in the Hall* had. The second rate sketch stories and the trying-to-be-edgy feeling keeps this show from being really funny and good. Personally, if the warm-up guy had a show – I'd watch it instead.

The Bobroom is set to air on The Comedy Network and CTV.

THURSDAY NIGHTS
9:30 PM - MIDNIGHT

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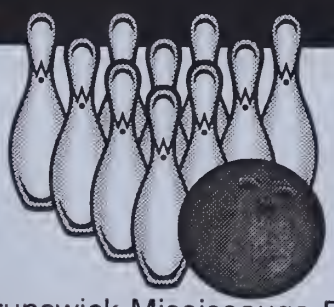

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SPORTS

Men's touch football team loses in the finals

BY JON LEE

UTM played above and beyond expectations to make it to the finals. With 21 players in the beginning, but with almost none showing up during the season, the men's interfaculty touch football team went into the Division I finals ranked fourth. UTM knocked off the number one ranked UC team and faced a very cocky Law squad, ranked second in the league. Unfortunately, Law took it in the finals, 25-6.

Law had fans present but all game long they were rude and classless with uncalled for commentary. UTM did have a few fans though who conducted themselves very well.

UTM began strong, with Louis Dodano catching a Paul Mark reception on a broken play. Dodano took it 60 yards for the touchdown, but UTM missed the convert. UTM would not score again though, as Law scored four touchdowns with a convert, on plays to one hot receiver all game long. Other performances that should be noted were the defensive efforts by UTM's Agit Thagad with a quarterback sack, and an interception caught by Ryan Richards.

An unfortunate incident occurred near the end of the game, when Mark jumped onto the field from the bench. The result was Mark's ejection, as well as ejections of two Law players for unsportsmanlike conduct.

It was a great season otherwise for the men's touch football team, as they have made the finals in two of the last three years and the semi-finals in the last three years.

Despite the loss, the men's touch football team played hard all season long. Congratulations guys.

Fitstop beats undefeated Paper

BY ASTRID POEI

The Paper did a whole lot of standing around in this match-up. Look, there's umpire Jan Maw...he's dreamy!

The Fitstop cut the Paper 9-2 in semi-final co-ed softball action last Wednesday. The previously undefeated Paper fell to strong hitting by the Fitstop's Kevin Ali and Brian Yashchychyn.

In the first inning, the Paper held off the power hitting squad by limiting them to just two runs. The Paper's Richie Mehta and Scott Reidel contributed strong outfield defence. But by the third inning, the Paper was subject to a seven run mercy. The Paper trailed throughout this match-up, but managed to gain some ground on a homerun by Adam Giles that brought in teammate Gina Rajack to score.

However, it was too late and the Fitstop handed the Paper their first defeat this year.

Big hits led to the Fitstop's 9-2 win.

Eagles catch some butterflies

UTM women beat Monarchs 60-56 in basketball

BY JACK KRIST

Thcy won again, but it wasn't pretty. Last Monday, the UTM women's Division I basketball team beat the Mississauga Monarchs Juvenile girls rep team 60-56.

UTM led comfortably at the half 31-19, but the Monarchs came back to bring the game within reach. The Monarchs had the game within two points with under a minute to play. Marija Kosovski hit two clutch free throws with under 10 seconds left to seal the UTM win.

The Monarchs outscored UTM 37-29 in the second half. UTM looked drastically out of shape, and their unwillingness to box out or get back on defence led to second, third and fourth scoring opportunities in a row for the Monarchs.

Deborah Harmsen and Steph Kishimoto led UTM in scoring with 16 points each. Lindsey Sones also added 10 points. Kate Fenwick had 15 points for the Monarchs and Claire Miller added 14. The win moves UTM's fall record to 8-0, including two wins over OCAA College Varsity squads, Seneca and Georgian.

UTM will need to have more of a killer instinct when they face interfaculty teams in the fall semester play-offs. UTM has home court advantage as they take on Skule in semi-final action tonight at 8:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EPUS EVENTS

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Open Mike Monday on November 26
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Interfaculty scores

Nov 10-Women's Soccer
UTM 0, Scarborough 1

Nov 10-Men's Touch Football
UTM 6, Law 25

Nov 11-Men's Soccer
UTM 2, Scarborough B 1

Nov 11-Women's Div 1 Basketball
UTM 60, Mississauga Monarchs 56

Nov 12-Women's Ice Hockey
UTM 10, PT/OT/Trinity 0

Nov 12-Men's Div 2 Basketball
UTM won against FPEH (default)

Nov 13-Men's Div 1 Volleyball
UTM won against UC (default)

Nov 13-Women's Div 1 Volleyball
UTM 2, Medicine 0

Nov 14-Men's Div 1 Basketball
UTM 94, New College B 43

Nov 14-Women's Div 2 Basketball
UTM 20, Skule 19

Nov 15-Men's Div 1 Volleyball
UTM 1, Medicine 2

Nov 16-Men's Div 2 Ice Hockey
UTM 2, Woodsworth 7

Nov 17-Men's Soccer
UTM 1, Scarborough 3

UTM women take Centennial College basketball tourney

By Steve Manchur

Last Friday, a group of nine UTM women basketball players traveled way out east to Centennial College in Scarborough to take part in the first women's basketball tournament of the year. With a combination of five Division I players, and four Division II players, UTM hoped to win this inaugural event. However, what confidence they might have had was shaken slightly as they lost the early morning game 39-38 to a strong Sheridan Oakville team. Afterwards UTM had to play against Sheridan Brampton and managed to squeak out a 31-28 victory. In the most important game of the tourney, UTM faced Centennial College for a championship berth. UTM managed to defeat Centennial 38-24.

Last year, UTM beat Oakville 35-31 in the final, and looked to repeat last year's win. In this year's final, UTM started out on fire with baskets by Sarah Anderson and Stephanie Kishimoto, on their way to an early 10-2 lead. UTM coasted to an easy 36-23 victory. Kishimoto and Anderson both ended up with 12 points in the final.

Kishimoto averaged a tournament high 12.5 ppg for UTM. Also contributing to the championship were Lindsey Sones, Christine Gonyou, Morissa McCreary, Diana Kwong, Janielle Walker, Saira Qureshi and Laurie Brooks.

The state of university sports

Sports Opinion

By Jon Lee

I wanted to address a serious problem in interfaculty sports. It seems like someone keeps telling teams from the University of Toronto at the St. George campus to default. Let me explain.

Every year a team decides not to show up to play our men's interfaculty touch football team. I've played for three years and this is a major issue. For example, if a last place team decides not to come, but chooses to default the game intentionally, and loses, we win. But did we really win? Last year, the men's interfaculty touch football team was tied with two other teams by season's end for second place and a better ranking in the division. That hypothetically defaulted game affected our score, since it came down to points for in and against to decide how we'd be ranked. We fell all the way to fourth place and played the first-place team right away. I make no excuses that we lost, but it hurt that a team not showing up would affect our playoff ranking, and thus our chances to repeat for a championship. Now what if the same thing happened and cost us a playoff spot? Is that fair?

Some teams also decide not to show up for many other interfaculty sports, not just football. I hear from volleyball players of teams not showing up. Just check the scores and notice that there are more defaults than ever. Is it fair for those UTM players who book off work or put aside some time to play those games? I wasn't too pleased when a few weeks ago I got to school early on a Saturday to find out that the team we were playing against didn't show up.

What are their reasons for not showing up then? A last-place team decides to give up in the middle of a season. Tell me if you like seeing teams quit near the end of a major league sports season! A first-place team may not show up since they clinched a spot for playoffs. Is this fair to a team still competing for a spot too? Where's the team effort in that?

The reality of UTM sports

The Eagle's Nest is a column devoted to answering all your questions about UTM athletics. Whether it's a question about interfaculty, intramural, administration or anything about UTM sports, *The Eagle's Nest* is the answer! Please e-mail all your questions to iamutm-sports@hotmail.com and they will be answered as soon as possible.

The Eagle's Nest

Athletics Q&A

By Astrid Poei

Q: Why do sports at the University of Toronto at Mississauga suck?

That is the question that has been asked over and over again. And the answer is sports at the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) suck because of an accumulation of problems.

The major problem with interfaculty sports is that people are so apathetic due to rising tuition costs and the pressure on students to get good grades for scholarships blah, blah, vicious cycle. You get the picture. So there is a lack of commitment for interfaculty sports, which can be seen in two ways. Of course, our main priority here should be school, so many players decide to skip games or practices for school, but in skipping games or practices, it sends the message that interfaculty sports require little commitment. Players should have more time management skills and be able to juggle both sports and school.

Another problem with UTM athletes in general, is that they lack campus pride. This is a commuter campus, where people just go to class and go home and nobody cares, as can be seen in the dwindling numbers at pub and in the dwindling team participation numbers.

Another problem with most interfaculty teams is that they lack team chemistry. Team chemistry is very hard to achieve, when you have players from different years playing on the same team. When you played high school sports, you played on a team according to an age and grade category: bantam, junior and senior. Therefore, you shared many of the same classes with your teammates and you shared in the same struggles as they did. You saw those people on a daily basis and the team bond was greater. Therefore, the team chemistry was there. Here, at the university level, you barely see any of your teammates outside of the sport, if at all.

Another problem with interfaculty sports is it consumes a lot of time, especially if games are played downtown. Each team is asked to arrive at UTM an hour before the game takes place to travel downtown, either on a bus or the school van, and then it takes another hour to travel back to Mississauga. So essentially, a one-hour game actually takes three hours. The remedy to this problem is scheduling home games. But the problem with scheduling games in Mississauga is that most of them end in default.

Another problem with interfaculty teams is that they lack the proper coaching and refereeing. Many interfaculty teams are run by students who play on the team, as well as their coach. It is difficult to play and coach at the same time, because as a player, you may not see the same things as a coach who is not on the floor. The other problem with coaching is that some coaches lack the enthusiasm that other coaches have. While it is good that some players decide to coach, just so there can be a team, these players are not always qualified to coach. With refereeing, many games are refereed by Varsity players, or even students who don't always make proper calls, which can be frustrating to players.

Another problem with interfaculty sports is the level of competition. Many athletes do not want to spend their time training just to play against teams who don't even know what sport it is they're playing. Many interfaculty athletes recognize the drop in the level of competition between high school and interfaculty sports. They also recognize the difference in the level of commitment between Varsity and interfaculty sports. There needs to be some middle ground. For many interfaculty sports, players who do not get selected for Division 1 are either cut or sent down to the Division II league where games are more prone to ending in default. Players that are sent down to the Division II league do not like the level of competition and ultimately quit. Players that are cut usually do not come back to try out in the next season, which accounts for the declining numbers in participation.

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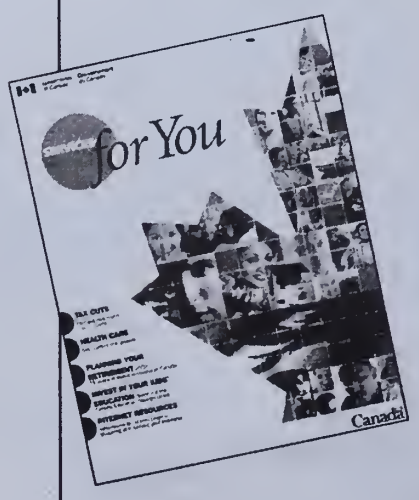

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Canada

Athletes with asthma: pushing the limit

FOR YOUR HEALTH UTM

BY ASTRID POEI

Imagine being unable to breathe properly. That's how many UTM athletes suffering from asthma feel.

"I often feel shortness of breath during a game even after I take my inhalers" – Erin Laporte

"I often feel shortness of breath during a game even after I take my inhalers," UTM alumni Erin Laporte said of her asthma. "And it often takes me quite a while after the game to recover, especially if the game takes place in very cold or very hot temperatures."

Asthma has not stopped UTM alumni Erin Laporte from participating in sports.

Asthma is an inflammatory disease of the airway that affects more than 15 million people in North America alone. As a result of this inflammation, the airways become blocked or narrowed because of swelling, muscular contractions and mucous production. These effects are usually temporary, but they cause shortness of breath, breathing trouble and other symptoms. If an asthma attack is severe, a person may need emergency treatment to restore normal breathing.

While there is no cure for asthma, it can be controlled. Substances in our environment can cause asthma attacks. These factors vary from person to person, but common ones include cold air; exercise; allergens (things that cause allergies) such as dust mites, mold, pollen, animal dander or cockroach debris; and some types of viral infections.

"The Fitstop staff are first aid trained, it's part of their contract" – Steve Manchur

Currently, the Centre for Physical Education (CPE) has taken several precautions to reduce the seriousness of the attacks and to alleviate the stress of the victim if a situation should ever arise. "The Fitstop staff are first aid trained, it's part of their contract," former CPE Program Assistant Steve Manchur said. "[CPE] staff are first aid trained as well. Most athletes will have their inhaler. But we can't administer them their inhaler, because it's medication."

These precautions have been in place at the UTM facilities since its opening, but reports of asthma attacks are rare.

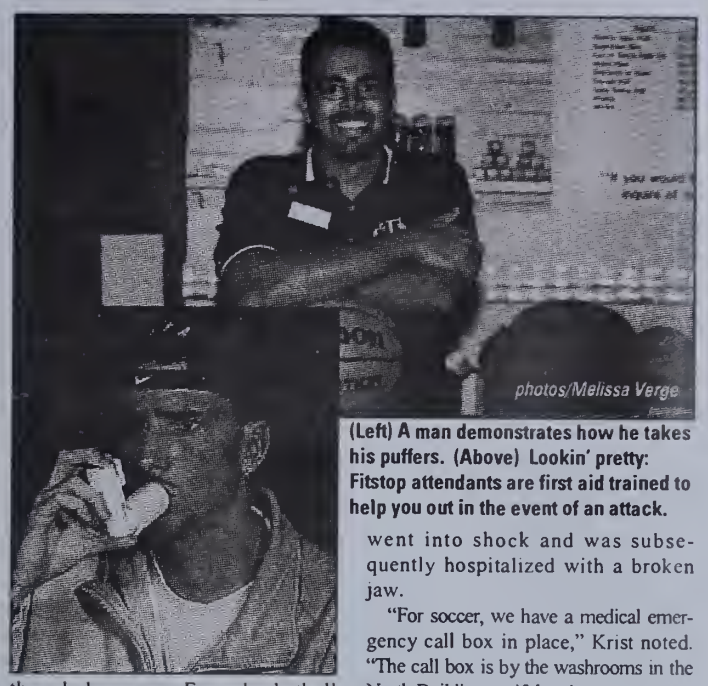
"I only encountered an athlete with an asthma attack once," Centre for Physical Education (CPE) Program Coordinator Jack Krist said. "Fortunately, we were able to identify the symptoms early. I asked them if they had an inhaler and they pointed to their bag. I got the inhaler and they took a puff and they calmed down a bit and they just jumped right back into the drills."

"I've spent several hours in the hospital recovering from an attack" – Erin Laporte

However, one athlete was not so lucky. "I've spent several hours in the hospital recovering from an attack," Laporte said. Laporte recalls her worst attack, "The worst attack I had was during a ball hockey tournament when there were no extra subs. It was extremely hot in the gymnasium and after playing the whole first half I started to experience an attack."

Despite her asthma, Laporte has never let it hold her back. Laporte has achieved many great accomplishments at UTM, including being named Athlete of the Year and receiving the 200 Point Award, awarded to the athlete who has participated in many sports.

"I think most athletes will know their limits," Krist said. "For high-risk sports such as rugby, it is required that for every game, a trainer must be present. So we always send someone who stays for the whole game. For a basketball game, there is a trained first aid person on duty, though they don't need to watch the entire game."



(Left) A man demonstrates how he takes his puffers. (Above) Lookin' pretty: Fitstop attendants are first aid trained to help you out in the event of an attack.

Krist also added that "There is an on site supervisor at Varsity Arena who knows first aid."

While these measures are the standard between UTM and St. George, UTM has gone further to ensure the safety of its athletes following an incident that occurred last year at the women's interfaculty soccer semi-finals during which a player from Medicine was hurt when she collided with another UTM player. That Medicine player went into shock and was subsequently hospitalized with a broken jaw.

"For soccer, we have a medical emergency call box in place," Krist noted. "The call box is by the washrooms in the North Building, so if there's ever an emergency someone will push it and help will arrive. We can't expect someone to wait until first aid help arrives. It's better that the ambulance just comes.

"Staff can only do what they're trained to do. In a situation where you have a bone dislocation, staff cannot touch the area. They have to send them to the hospital."

Despite the far-reaching effects of asthma, much remains to be learned about what causes it and how to prevent it. Although asthma can cause severe health problems, in most cases treatment can control it and allow a person to live a normal and active life.

Centre for Physical Education

www.utm.utoronto.ca/physed

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Interfaculty Tournaments

Needed: Broomball players for one day tournament.
Sunday November 25th, UTM will face off against their downtown rivals in some on-ice action. If you are interested in playing contact Chandra Gilbert at (905) 828-3712 or cgilbert@utm.utoronto.ca for more details.

Intramural Tournaments

- **November 23** Badminton Doubles Tournament. Men's, Women's, Co-ed. Resister and warm up in the Gym between 5 and 5:30pm. Draws will be set and the tournament will begin

Men's Intramural Ball Hockey

3 on 3 league

Entry meeting is Thursday November 22 @ 5:00PM
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Head Ball Hockey Referee Needed.
See Jack Krist for Details

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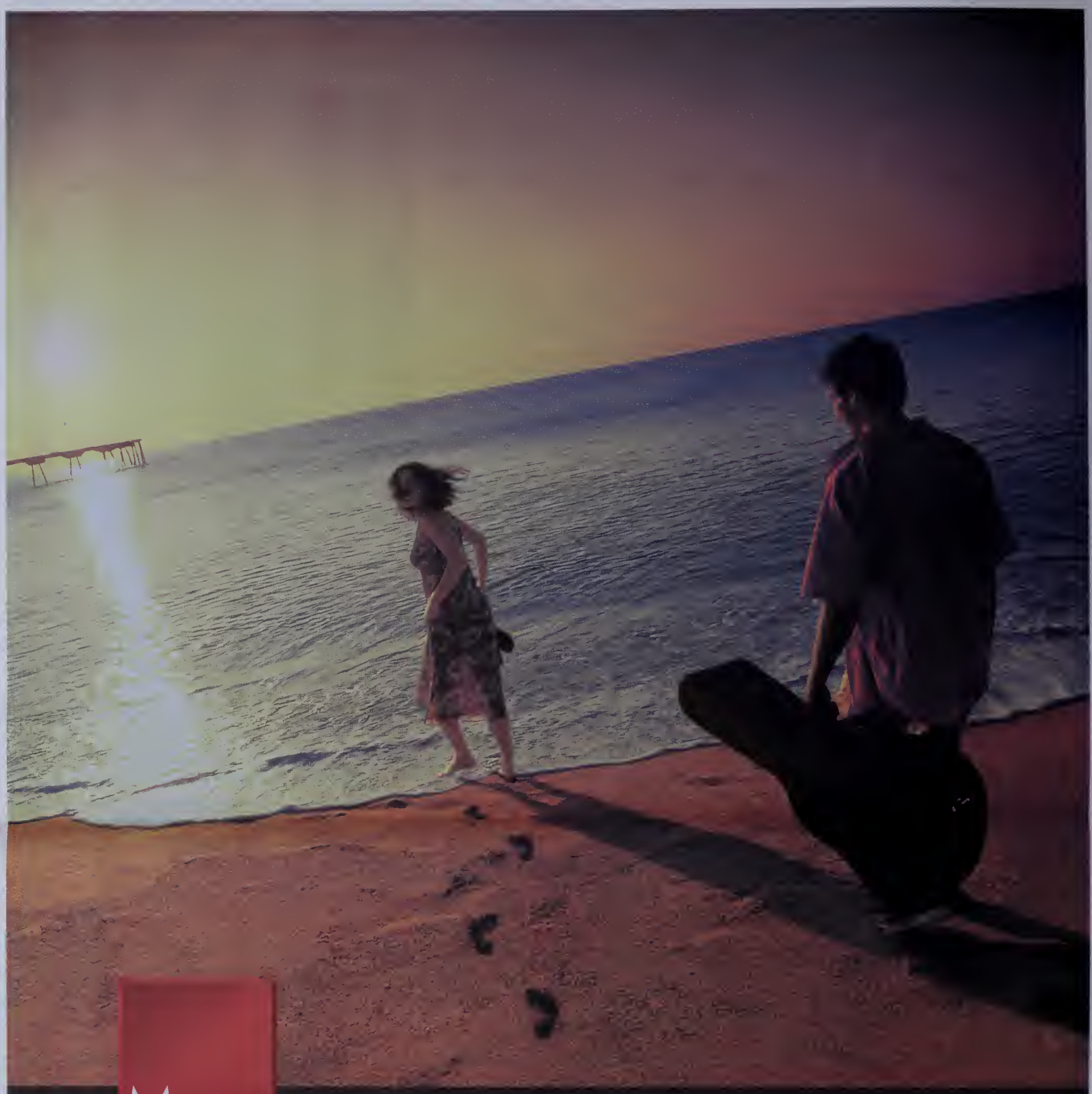
ATTENTION ALL SOCCER PLAYERS: Soccer players needed for upcoming Extramural Tournament at Humber. The tournament is Sat. Nov. 30th at the Lakeshore campus. If you are interested please see Jack Krist in Room 1114 for more details.



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